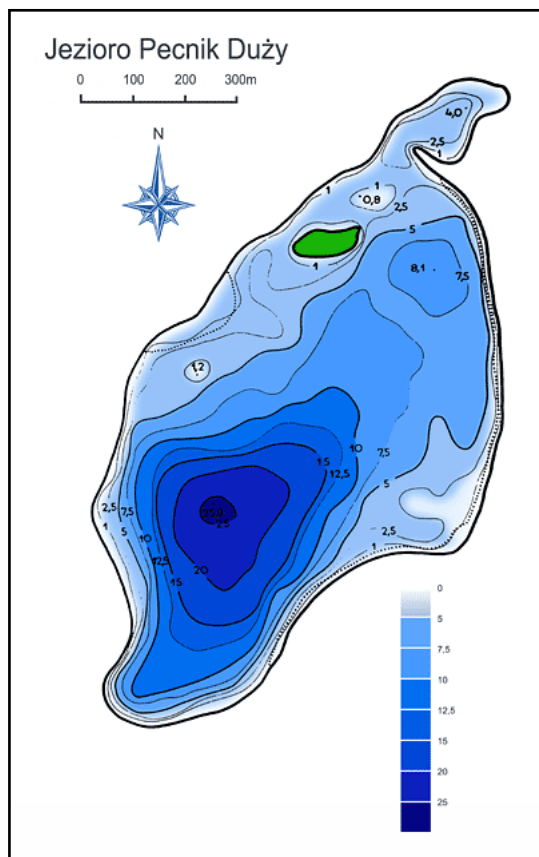


Pecnik Duży Lake



Also known as Piaseczno Duże, the lake is located north-east of Pustelnia (area 62,93ha, max. depth 25,9m). It fills a no-outlet land depression that came into being around 10 thousand years ago as a dead glacier melted itself. It's a mesotrophic lake, one of the cleanest and most beautiful in the DNP. Its water, however, contains a relatively small amount of calcium. The water translucency reaches 6m deep. Even though Pecnik Duży is a dimictic lake (its waters are stirred by the winds only in the spring and autumn), even in the summer the presence of oxygen reaches to 20m deep. The water layers below 10m have a constant annual temperature of 4-5°C. The most common fish species here are: roach, rudd, perch, bream, eel, and tench. Present here is also the European whitefish that has a rate of procreation much higher than in any other Polish lakes. Pecnik Duży is the only DNP lake whose waters fulfill the criteria of 1st degree purity. The coastal vegetation is scarce. The bottom vegetation is dominated by stone-wart meadows. In some deeper spots there is a presence of the rare *Nitella flexilis* (a spring-wart). European whitefish has its home here. In the east, a very narrow and several dozen metres long peninsula cuts into the lake. Peatbog vegetation developed there, especially sundew and cranberry. Another pocket of mossy peatbog with lots of mossy birch clings to the eastern bank of the lake half-way through its length. In the northern part there is a small island called



Trzcinowa Góra. There is a legend connected to that island that talks about a devil, who was to build a bridge on that lake for a fisherman's soul. A narrow strip of land divides Pecnik Duży from Pecnik Mały. All is surrounded by beautiful pine fores.

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